Message Text

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DRAFTED BY EA/K:RGRICH,JR.:JCM APPROVED BY EA:WHGLEYSTEEN, JR. S/S-O: TGMARTIN

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TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL IMMEDIATE
INFO WHITE HOUSE 0205

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NODIS

E.O. 11652:XGDS-1

TAGS: PGOV, KS, US

SUBJECT: JAWORSKI DIALOGUE WITH ROK AMBASSADOR RE ACCESS TO KIM DONG-JO

REF: SEOUL 3498

- 1. ROK EMB COUNSELOR PARK INFORMS US THAT AMBASSADOR HAS RECEIVED SHORT BUT VERY RESTRICTIVE INSTRUCTIONS FROM SEOUL IN RESPONSE TO HIS FULL REPORT OF JAWORSKI MEETING APRIL 25. INSTRUCTIONS DO NOT OFFER ANY LATITUDE AND MERELY REAFFIRM PREVIOUS ROKG POSITION.
- 2. PARK STATED THAT EMBASSY'S DETAILED REPORT SEEMED TO HAVE SOFTENED ROKG'S IMPRESSIONS OF JAWORSKI SOMEWHAT, BUT INSTRUCTIONS HAD EMPHASIZED THAT EVEN PHONE CALL ENVISAGED FOR KIM DONG-JO WOULD NEED INITIALLY TO BE WITH CONFIDENTIAL

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O'NEILL RATHER THAN JAWORSKI SINCE "KOREAN PUBLIC" WOULD NOT UNDERSTAND DIRECT DIALOGUE WITH JAWORSKI.

3. AT AMBASSADOR KIM YONG-SHIK'S DIRECTION, PARK REQUESTED THAT DEPT PASS TO JAWORSKI THE ROKG RESPONSE. NOTING THAT SUCH A NEGATIVE RESPONSE PASSED THROUGH AN INTERMEDIARY WOULD SEEM TO TRIGGER THE END OF CURRENT

DIALOGUE, KOREA DIRECTOR RICH URGED FURTHER DIRECT MEETING BETWEEN JAWORSKI AND KIM. OUTCOME WAS THAT DEPT WAS ASKED TO INFORM JAWORSKI/WHITE IN GENERAL TERMS OF PRESENT ROK RESPONSE "IF ASKED." IT ALSO CLEARLY EMERGED THAT KIM IS STILL HOPING FOR SOME GREATER FLEXIBILITY AND WILL TALK WITH JAWORSKI AGAIN WHEN HE HAS SOMETHING MORE FORTHCOMING TO SAY.

4. COMMENT: IN TYPICAL KOREAN FASHION, THE FIRST ROKG FORMAL REACTION SEEMS TO BE HARD-LINE AND REJECTIONIST. YOUR CONVERSATION WITH KCIA DIRECTOR KIM JAE-KYU IN PARTICULAR INDICATES, HOWEVER, THAT JAWORSKI PROPOSALS HAVE SPARKED INTEREST AND MIGHT AT LEAST FORM BASIS OF SOME FURTHER DIALOGUE. THEREFORE, WE DO NOT PLAN TO PASS ON THIS REJECTIONIST RESPONSE TO JAWORSKI AT THIS TIME, BUT WILL CONTINUE TO URGE KIM TO FIND A WAY TO CNTINUE THE DIRECT DISCUSSION IN A MEANINGFUL MANNER. IF FEASIBLE, YOU MAY WISH TO FIND AN OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS SURPRISE THAT AMBASSADOR KIM IS NOT BEING GIVEN SOME LATITUDE ON THIS MATTER. VANCE

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